(In crores of Rs.)

Railways	2005-06	2006-07
Passenger Earning	15126	17225

The above figure is inclusive of the earnings from foreign tourists. However no separate accountal is kept of earnings from foreign tourists.

(b) and (c) "No Sir. However, in order to attract the foreign tourists, Indian Railways introduced Indrail Pass Scheme in the year 1977 as a tourism promotion measure. These passes are issued to the foreign nationals and Non Resident Indians (NRIs) against payments in the US dollars. The pass holder is entitled to travel throughout the Indian Railways' Network within the period of its validity in a class it is issued for. Further, Indian Railways also run five luxury tourist trains for tourists including foreign tourists *i.e.* Palace on Wheels, Heritage on Wheels in Rajasthan sector, Steam Safari Train-the Fairy Queen on Delhi-Alwar sector, Deccan Odyssey in Maharashtra Sector and Mahaparinirvan Express covering places related to Buddhism. In addition to above, two new luxury tourist trains in Karnataka and Rajasthan may also be launched shortly. One luxury tourist train in the Punjab Sector has also been approved. These luxury tourist train facilities are availed by foreign tourists."

Revenue loss due to ticketless travelling

605. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway authorities are aware about the unauthorised forceful entry of ticketless travellers and general ticket holders in reserved compartments;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents during 2007 and the loss of revenue to Railways alongwith amount of penalties recovered therefrom, zone-wise;

(c) whether the Travelling Ticket Examiners and other security personnel behave as silent spectators to such unlawful acts and never discharge their duties;

(d) if so, the reaction of the railways thereto; and

(e) the steps taken by Railways to stop these activities in reserved compartments in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Some cases come to notice from time to time.

(b) No separate statistics regarding number of unauthorized entry of passengers in reserved coaches is maintained. However the details of number of persons detected travelling without ticket/irregular travel including unauthorized travelling in reserved coahces and the amount realized including penalties from them during the regular checks conducted in the year 2007 (January to September, 2007) is enclosed as Statement (*See* below). The loss of revenue on this account is not quantifiable.

(c) and (d) The railway staff including ticket checking staff and the Railway Protection Force staff accompanying the trains are taken up as and when they are found lacking in discharging their duties properly.

(e) The following steps have been taken in this regard:

(i) The minimum penalty for ticketless/irregular travel has been increased from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 250/- with effect from 01.07.2004.

(ii) Surprise checks are conducted by the Commercial and the Vigilance Departments etc.

Statement

The details of number of persons detected travelling without ticket

(Rs. in crores)

Railway	Number of Persons detected travelling without ticket/irregular travel including unauthorized entry in reserved compartments (in lakhs)	Amount realized
	January to September, 2007	January to September, 2007
Central	5.94	22.50
Eastern	2.91	7.35
East Central	2.38	7.83
East Coast	0.75	2.65
Northern	9.04	35.22
North Central	3.48	13.55
North Eastern	2.48	9.23
Northeast Frontier	1.11	4.62
North Western	2.09	7.05
Southern	2.42	8.80
South Central	4.48	17.82
South Eastern	1.14	3.54
South East Central	0.90	2.94
South Western	1.13	4.23
Western	5.37	18.44
West Central	2.16	8.58
TOTAL:	47.78	174.35

Changes in accounting policy of railways

606. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several changes have been carried out in the accounting policy by Railways pertaining to the years 2005-06 and 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the impact of such changes in the profit and loss account and projection of 'surplus' fund, in particular, pertaining to 2005-06 and 2006-07;